

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

February 2, 2000 LB 510

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...interpretation; not one way or another, but to tell them what the law says and to advise them on that basis, and that's the same thing that the Attorney General is supposed to do...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...and a nonpartisan...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time is up. Thank you.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...nonpartisan office would help, I think. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Smith, followed by Senator Vrtiska and Senator Kristensen. Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I want to agree with Senator Schimek that I don't believe, even for a second, that people are beholden to political parties and political affiliations just because they may feel a certain way. And I also want to suggest that there might be an unintended consequence, and I don't know, I haven't polled other members or even groups specifically but I think that we all agree that there are times when money is spent on campaigning in such a great amount that sometimes we lose track and lose focus of what elections are about. And I'm not saying we need to limit that, necessarily. What I am saying is things have oftentimes gotten out of hand. And I would much rather see a campaign based on the issues instead of a campaign based on political affiliation because we know that a majority of the population is affiliated with a political party, and that's the way it is right now. And I would much rather focus on the issues, have a candidate focus on the issues instead of focusing only on a political affiliation. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Smith. Senator Vrtiska, on advancement of LB 510.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body.